

case of the Selenocosmiidæ, when we do not claim it to be a sign of affinity between the Selenocosmiidæ and *Idiommata* and *Trechona*. To this it must be replied that *Idiommata* and *Trechona* are separated from each other and from the Selenocosmiidæ by certain other characters which do not admit of the genera presenting them being grouped in the same category. But the genera of Selenocosmiidæ are, apart from the presence of Wood-Mason's organ, much alike in all structural points; and this, coupled with the fact that they inhabit the same geographical area, lends great weight to the supposition that the mutual possession of Wood-Mason's organ may be regarded as an indication of relationship between them.

PROCEEDINGS OF LEARNED SOCIETIES.

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

December 4, 1895.—Dr. Henry Woodward, F.R.S.,
President, in the Chair.

The following communication was read:—

‘The Mollusca of the Chalk Rock.—Part I.’ By Henry Woods, Esq., M.A., F.G.S.

In the introductory part of the paper the Author gives an account of the characters, distribution, and literature of the Chalk Rock. He points out that the Chalk Rock fauna may be recognized at the same level in Northern France, N.W. Germany, Saxony, Silesia, and Bohemia; and on account of the wide distribution and distinctive features of this fauna, he suggests that the Chalk Rock merits a palæontological rather than a lithological designation, and proposes for it the term ‘zone of *Heteroceras reussianum*.’

The main part of the paper is devoted to the consideration of the cephalopoda, gasteropoda, and scaphopoda; and is based largely on the collection from Cuckhamsley (B rks) made by the late Mr. Montagu Smith; but for the loan of many specimens the Author is indebted to Mr. R. M. Brydone, Mr. C. Griffith, Mr. W. Hill, Dr. J. Morison, and Mr. James Saunders. In addition to some genera, of which sufficiently good examples for exact determination have not yet been obtained, the following are represented:—*Nautilus*, *Ptychoceras*, *Heteroceras*, *Baculites*, *Prionocyclus*, *Pachydiscus*, *Scaphites*, *Crioceras*, *Emarginula*, *Pleurotomaria*, *Trochus*, *Turbo*, *Crepidula*, *Natica*, *Cerithium*, *Aporrhais*, *Avellana*, and *Dentalium*. Some new species are described, and the synonymy and distribution of the others treated in detail, figures and descriptions being given of the forms not previously well known. The account of the lamellibranchs and the general conclusions are reserved for Part II.

December 18, 1895.—Dr. Henry Woodward, F.R.S.,
President, in the Chair.

The following communication was read:—

‘The British Silurian Species of *Acidaspis*.’ By Philip Lake,
Esq., M.A., F.G.S.

In this paper descriptions are given of those species of *Acidaspis* in the Silurian of Britain which have hitherto been incompletely described. The British forms are compared with those from the same system in Sweden and Bohemia. Five, out of nine, are represented by the same or very closely allied species in Sweden; two in Bohemia. All the Swedish forms except one are represented in Britain, and one in Bohemia as well as in Britain.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Numbers of Zoological Species known in the Years 1830 and 1881.

By Dr. A. GÜNTHER.

SOME years ago I made a computation of the approximate numbers of species of animals known in the years 1830 and 1881 respectively, with the following result:—

	1830.	1881.
Mammals	1,200	2,300
Birds	3,600	11,000
Reptiles	443	2,600
Amphibians	100	800
Fishes	3,500	11,000
Crustacea (year 1840)	(1,290)	7,500
Pycnogonida	8	70
Arachnida	1,400	8,000
Myriopoda	450	1,300
Insecta:—		
Coleoptera	17,000	93,000
Orthoptera	800	6,500
Neuroptera	400	4,000
Hymenoptera.....	2,400	30,750
Lepidoptera	14,500	44,500
Diptera	11,000	24,400
Rhynchota.....	3,000	17,000
Annulata (Lamarck in 1838)	(130)	3,100
Turbellaria and Nemertida (ditto) .	(20)	170
Entozoa (ditto)	(222)	2,800
Rotatoria (ditto)	(40)	120
Mollusca	11,000	33,000
Echinoderms (ditto)	(230)	1,843
Cœlenterata (year 1834)	500	2,200
Radiolaria (Ehrenberg, 1844)	(5)	2,000 (Hæckel)
Foraminifera	(say) 100	900
Infusoria (year 1838)	(200)	(say) 400
Spongiida (Blainville, 1835)	(50)	(say) 400
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	73,588	311,653